

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 EUR-25 /116 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/GRK:GTCHURCHILL:PR

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NEA/CYP - MR. BOYATT (DRAFT)

----- 071342

R 281614Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US,

SUBJECT: GREEK AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE PANAYOTACOS PAYS
CALL IN DEPARTMENT

1. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE PANAYOTACOS CALLED ON ACTING
SECRETARY CASEY TO PRESENT COPIES OF CREDENTIAL
DOCUMENTS. THIS WAS PURELY A COURTESY CALL AND NO
MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE WERE DISCUSSED.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT CALL ON ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY
RODGER DAVIES, PANAYOTACOS WAS BRIEFED ON MOST RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN MID-EAST SITUATION, COMMENTED ON CYPRUS
AT SOME LENGTH, AND TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON THE CURRENT SITUATION
IN GREECE.

3. PANAYOTACOS BACKED INTO DISCUSSION OF CYPRUS BY
COMMENTING THAT GOG PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MID-EAST
SETTLEMENT BECAUSE OF IMPACT ON CYPRUS ISSUE. IN RESPONSE
TO DAVIES' QUESTION, HE STATED THAT BOTH ARABS AND
ISRAELIS INVOLVED ON ISLAND; FORMER IN SUPPORT OF MAKARIOS,
LATTER FOR EOKA. BOTH PARTIES HAVE BEEN PROVIDING ARMS
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AND EQUIPMENT, WHICH GOG POWERLESS TO STOP. MID-EAST

SETTLEMENT WOULD AUTOMATICALLY END THIS INTERVENTION.
MR. DAVIES SAID WE HAD RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF ARAB OR
ISRAELI ARMS SHIPMENTS, BUT HAD HEARD OF A CONNECTION

BETWEEN LYSSARIDES AND THE FADAYEEN.

4. PANAYOTACOS SAID HE IS DEEPLY WORRIED ABOUT COMMUNIST
INFILTRATION ON CYPRUS. MR. DAVIES COMMENTED THAT AKEL
SEEMED TO ATTRACT VOTES WELL BEYOND THE ACTUAL COMMUNIST
ELEMENT BY EXPOUSING NATIONAL CAUSES, INCLUDING FULL
SUPPORT FOR MAKARIOS AND FOR ENOSIS. PANAYOTACOS SAID
HE WAS AWARE OF THESE EXPLANATIONS BUT WAS NOT REASSURED.
HE FEELS IT IS OMINOUS THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN NICOSIA
NUMBERS UPWARD OF 200 PEOPLE.

5. PANAYOTACOS FELT THE CYPRUS INTER-COMMUNITY TALKS
WERE GOING POORLY, THE SITUATION ON THE ISLAND IS
DETERIORATING, AND RENEWED TURKISH DEMANDS FOR
FEDERATION ARE DISTURBING. MR. DAVIES SAID THE GOT HAD
REASSURED US THAT THE USE OF THE WORD "FEDERATION" DID
NOT IMPLY A CHANGE IN TURKISH POLICY. THE U.S., HE SAID,
CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THE TALKS OFFER THE MOST PROMISING
WAY TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH THE RECENT NY TIMES
ARTICLE ON THE TALKS WAS OVERLY OPTIMISTIC, THE GREEK
AND TURKISH CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERTS HAVE INDEED BEEN HAVING
USEFUL SIDE TALKS. PANAYOTACOS COMMENTED THAT WHILE
THE GREEK EXPERT HAS THE COMPLETE SUPPORT OF THE GOG,
ALDIKACTI HAS NO SUPPORT FROM THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT.
CONSEQUENTLY, THESE TALKS HAVE NO RESULT. DISCUSSIONS
REGARDING CYPRUS ENDED WITH RHETORICAL REMARK BY PANAYO-
TACOS TO EFFECT THAT INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS WERE GOG IDEA,
AND WERE INITIATED OVER MAKARIOS' OPPOSITION AND GOT
RELUCTANCE.

6. MR. DAVIES COMMENTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL INFLUENCE
IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAD INCREASED CONSIDERABLY SINCE
PANAYOTACOS' LAST ASSIGNMENT IN WASHINGTON. IN BRIEFING
THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE, MR DAVIES SAID, HE HAD
MADE OUR POSITION CLEAR AND HAD POINTED OUT THAT THE
GREEK PROBLEM COULD NOT BE SOLVED IN WASHINGTON. HOW-
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EVER, CONGRESSMEN WOULD CONTINUE TO RAISE QUESTIONS SUCH
AS: WHERE IS THE GREEK SITUATION LEADING; DO OUR
RELATIONS WITH THE GOG ALIENATE THE GREEK PEOPLE; IS THE
MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICS NOT WEAKENING THE GREEK
ARMED FORCES; WILL GREECE CONTINUE TO BE ABLE TO FULFILL
ITS NATO ROLE; CAN GREEK DISREGARD FOR THE POLITICAL
OBJECTIVES OF NATO BE OVERLOOKED; AND SO FORTH.

7. CITING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION AND THE CIVIL WAR, PANAYOTACOS SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE WHO HAD NOT SHARED THE GREEK EXPERIENCE TO FULLY COMPREHEND GREEK FEARS AND COMPLEXES. THE SWEDES ARE IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE ATTACK ON THE GREEK GOVERNMENT, BUT THIS PROBABLY ARISES OUT OF THEIR GUILT BECAUSE OF THEIR POSITION IN WORLD WAR II. THEY CANNOT BE PROUD OF THEIR RECORD. GREECE, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. FROM THIS EXPERIENCE COMES THE PRESENT ABNORMAL SITUATION --WHICH OF COURSE WILL NOT LAST FOREVER. MR. DAVIES COMMENTED THAT IT WAS PRECISELY ON THIS QUESTION OF TIMING THAT PANAYOTACOS WOULD BE GETTING THE SHARPEST QUESTIONS FROM THE CONGRESS. CASEY

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